(c) whether the Tamil Nadu Government have applied for licence to start distillery units under cooperative sector; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI CHINTA MOHAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Government of Tamil Nadu have offered 1 lakh M.T. of molasses of export. Permission for export of 40,000 MT of molasses from Tamil Nadu has been given. Release of further quantities will be considered after a review of requirements of all deficit States has been made.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Sale of confiscated goods

677. DR. RATNAKAR PANDEY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Audit Report of NCCF for the year 1987-88 reveals that confiscated goods worth about Rs. 20,772/- were sold to Krishan Nagar Cooperative Store, Delhi without payment and without raising any sale invoice by the Branch Incharge, Chandigarh;

(b) whether the connivance of the said officer with Krishan Nagar Coop. Store is established by the fact that on the face of clear instructions from Delhi Branch on 9-11-87 not to supply further stock of confiscated goods on 14-11-87 to the said stores;

(c) whether it is also a fact that major penalty has been recommended to be imposed on the said officer by the CVC, to whom the matter was referred to by the NCCF; and

(d) if so, what are the reasons for delaying the termination of the involved officer by the NCCF ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) and (b) The audit report for 1987-88 (July to June) pertaining to Delhi Branch of the NCCF refers to a difference of Rs. 18,928.80 on account of non-adjustment of supply of confiscated goods made by the Chandigarh Branch of the NCCF to their Delhi Branch for distribution of the said confiscated goods to the Krishna Nagar Cons. Coop. Stores Ltd. Delhi. The Officer concerned of the Chandigarh branch allowed credit sale of confiscated goods to M/s. Krishna Nagar Cons. Coop. Store Ltd., Delhi, violating the guidelines issued by the Head Office of the NCCF.

(c) and (d) No Sir, minor penalty proceedings have been initiated against the officer by the NCCF in consultation with the Central Vigilance Commission.

Decline in the investment by drug manufacturers

678. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased ot state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is growing decline in the investment by drug manufacturers in the country and the investmnet being made in other areas;

(b) if so, what is the percentage of decline and reasons therefor;

(c) what is the annual percentage of shortage in the drugs anticipated in the coming years; and

(d) what steps have been taken/proposed to be taken by Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI CHINTA MOHAN): (a) to (d) According to the trends available from the industrial approvals granted in the pharmaceutical sector during the years 1988-90, there does not appear to be any decline in investments. Corrective action for removing disincentives, if any, in increasing production or channelising of new investment is being examined as part of review of DPCO, 1987.